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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Brandenburg-Industriehafen Airfield

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 3 September 1954

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REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED

1. During July 1954, conferences were held with regard to repair work on the concrete lanes at Brandenburg-Industriehafen and Brandenburg-Briest airfields. In this connection Soviet Air Force Major Nesnamov (fnu), about 40 years old, 1.70 meters tall, fair, stout and shrewd, and air force Captain Zemlyanski (fnu) were present at Brandenburg-Industriehafen airfield. Major Nesnamov's headquarters housed on the ground floor of the barracks building at the edge of Industriehafen airfield which was nearest to the landing field. During the conferences the impression rose that Unit Nesnamov had connection to Unit Kazavitski in Briest.¹

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2. The third story of the aforementioned barracks building housed the headquarters of an AA unit under the command of Major Anisimov (fnu) who wore red-bordered black epaulets with crossed barrel insignia.

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 Apparently, there was a connection between this AA unit and Briest airfield as the unit had dug AA gun emplacements at Briest airfield.²

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3. Colonel Zakharov (fnu), chief of the air force headquarters in the Infanterie Kaserne in Brandenburg had a large map of Germany in his office on which the three flight routes from West Germany to Berlin were entered. The previously reported Popov (fnu) and Major (adm) Pachenko (fnu) also belonged to Zakharov's unit. An interpreter stated that the headquarters was in close connection with Unit Kazavitski in Briest.¹ The officers' and EM kitchens were located over the garages which were behind the main building the latter used by the headquarters. The EM kitchen was equipped with 4 boilers each with a capacity of about 150 liters.

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4. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at the field between 30 July and 4 August:

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30 July. Between 1000 and 1200, individual flights were made by Il-10s. There was rainy weather.

31 July. About 0600, the aircraft engines were started. About 0700,

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8 Il-10s individually took off, circled once and made low-level attacks at Briest airfield. Subsequently, the aircraft landed in Briest. After 0830, flights were made individually and in formations. A Il-10 towing a sleeve target was twice observed departing. At 0830, a Po-2 [] was observed aloft.

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4 August. There was intensive air activity including low-level attacks at the field. Twice, a Il-10 towing a sleeve target was seen heading south. Each time, about 10 Il-10s followed and returned to the field after 35 to 40 minutes. About 1500, the field was occupied by an estimated 28 Il-10s.³

5. The Infanterie Kaserne in Brandenburg was occupied by an air force unit and some dependents up to 5 August. On 27 July, the radio trucks were no longer observed at the fence along the Vereinsstrasse. After 3 August, a radio mast, 8 to 10 meters high, was observed at this fence. Sedan [] with driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the barracks installation.

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6. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at the field between 30 July and 10 August:

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30 July. During the morning, Il-10s from Brandenburg-Industrieafen airfield made individual flights and low-level attacks at Briest airfield. During the afternoon, Il-10s and 2 Po-2s were aloft. After 2000, individual flights were made by Il-10s.

31 July. During the morning, flights were made in elements of two. During the afternoon, low-level attacks were made in elements of two at Briest airfield. After nightfall, air activity was continued.

1 August. During the morning and afternoon, there was air activity by Il-10s and, during the afternoon, individual low-level attacks were made at Industrieafen airfield. Beginning approximately at 2100, night flying was practiced.

2 August. There was air activity involving 4 Il-10s which individually took off, assembled in formation and subsequently attacked targets in Briest. About 1700, 28 Il-10s were parked at the field. Night flying was practiced with up to 4 Il-10s being aloft at the same time.

3 August. There was intensive air activity by individual aircraft. After nightfall, air activity was continued.

4 August. Between 0900 and 1100, low-level attacks were made at Briest airfield. Up to 6 Il-10s were simultaneously aloft. During the late afternoon, 8 Il-10s flew large circles and made low-level attacks at Industrieafen airfield.

5 August. Flying was practiced during the morning and afternoon. Between 1500 and 1600, a total of 14 Il-10s were observed aloft flying in formations of two, three and four.

6 August. There was air activity during the morning and afternoon. The Il-10s took off individually and then assembled in elements of two and formations of three.

7 and 8 August. There was individual flying and occasionally flying in elements of two. After nightfall on 8 August, night flights were made.

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9 August. Flying was started only about 1500 after heavy rain.

10 August. At about 1630, 17 Il-10s were counted at the field.³

Six AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement at the western edge of the field.⁴

7. Some of the motor vehicles observed entering and leaving the Infanterie Kaserne in Brandenburg were marked as driving school vehicles. Large charts with traffic signs were seen in the barracks yard. Trucks [] entered and left the installation.⁵

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1. [] Comment. The appointments of the officers mentioned are unknown except for Lieutenant Colonel Kazavitski who is carried as commanding officer of the OATB [] of the ground attack regiment in Brandenburg-Briest. It is assumed that Major Nesnamov is the chief of the OATB of the ground attack regiment in Brandenburg-Industriehafen. Captain Zemlyanski who is known as chief of a supply unit in Brandenburg since August 1951 possibly also belongs to this unit. Colonel Zakharov probably is the commanding officer of the unit which transferred from the Doeberitz artillery equipment park to Brandenburg-Industriehafen. Popov probably is the supply officer of this unit to which also Major Pachenkov is assigned. Major Pachenkov who was also reported as Panchenkov was the auditor in Doeberitz for the artillery equipment park and the quartering buildings on Thaelmann Platz. The repeatedly reported connection between Kazavitski and Zakharov and between Nesnamov and Zakharov requires clarification.

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2. [] Comment. Major Anisimov is reported for the first time. He is possibly assigned to the ground attack division headquarters and acts as commanding officer of the AA units at Brandenburg-Industriehafen and Brandenburg-Briest airfields and possibly also at Stendal airfield. In this connection efforts will be made to determine the location of the division headquarters.

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3. [] Comment. It is noteworthy that the ground attack regiment at Brandenburg-Industriehafen airfield have conducted many low-level attacks at Brandenburg-Briest airfield for some time. This cannot be accounted for so far. The number of Il-10s reportedly parked at the field does not agree with the assumed and repeatedly observed aircraft strength of about 45.

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4. [] Comment. AA gun emplacements with 5 and 6 x 37-mm AA guns respectively have been established at the northern edge of the field. outside of the field boundary near the Brandenburg Settlement and at the western edge of the field.

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5. [] Comment. The motor vehicle [] reported were previously observed in Doeberitz.

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